

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing method carried out in a host which can set an auto retreat of print data and a printing apparatus connected in bidirectional communication with the host, wherein the printing apparatus is equipped with a memory device and can perform a data retreat processing in response to a request from the host, comprising the steps of:

causing the host to start a print processing;
causing the host to form print data;
causing the host to set an auto retreat flag;
causing the host to send the formed print data;
causing the host to discriminate whether a notice has been received from the printing apparatus;

causing the host to displays contents of the received notice; and

causing the host to discriminate whether the print processing has been completed in the printing apparatus.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

causing the printing apparatus to discriminate whether the print data sent from the host has been received;

causing the printing apparatus to temporarily store the received print data;

causing the printing apparatus to discriminate whether a print-waiting job exists.

causing the printing apparatus to delete the

causing the printing apparatus to discriminate whether the print data has been cancelled.

6. A method according to claim 2, wherein when it is determined that the retreated job does not exist, said method further executes the steps of:

causing the printing apparatus to analyze the
status of the printing apparatus;

causing the printing apparatus to restore and delete the print data;

20 causing the printing apparatus to update the job
execution management table.

causing the host to obtain information on the
retreated job in the printing apparatus;

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10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said method causes the printing apparatus to manage the execution of the printing of the retreated print data as a retreat job and discriminate whether the retreated job exists upon retreating the print data, to discriminate whether the print data can be normally printed on the basis of the print attributes of the print data and the status of the printing apparatus when the retreated job exists, to manage the retreated job as an execution job when it is determined that the print data can be normally printed, and to discriminate whether a print-waiting job exists when it is

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said method causes the printing apparatus to discriminate whether the print data can be normally printed on the basis of the print attributes of the print data and the status of the print output apparatus when it is determined that the print-waiting job exists, to execute the printing when it is decided that the print data can be normally printed, and to allow the print data to be retreated into the memory device in accordance with the auto retreat setting when it is determined that the print data cannot be normally printed.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein when

the print data with the print attributes changed is received from the host, said method causes the printing apparatus to execute the processing in accordance with the print attributes and the status of the print output apparatus.

14. A computer-readable memory medium which stores a program having a function for instructing an auto retreat of print data to a printer, wherein the program comprises:

a code for allowing the user to select one of validation and invalidation of an auto retreat function on a display device; and

a code for allowing the print data to be sent together with information indicating validation or invalidation of the auto retreat function selected by the user.

15. A medium according to claim 14, wherein the program further comprises a code for allowing a message to be displayed on the display device, the message indicating that the printer has executed the auto retreat.

16. A medium according to claim 14, wherein the program further comprises a code for allowing a message to be displayed on the display device, the message

